



Governor Michael J. Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

May 24, 2019

Ms. Julie Kitka
President
Alaska Federation of Natives
3000 A Street, Suite 210
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Ms. Kitka,

Thank you for your letter and for taking the time to meet with Policy Advisor John Moller, Commissioner Bruce Tangeman, and OMB Director Donna Arduin on April 11, 2019 where your questions about my long-term fiscal plan were addressed. As you know, in January, I introduced three amendments to the Alaska Constitution that will put Alaska's fiscal plan on a stable, predictable, and sustainable path.

We have provided significant information and multiple avenues for input since our constitutional amendments were introduced. We have made presentations around Alaska, the legislature held numerous hearings, and, collectively, we have had dozens of meetings on the constitutional amendments. Our meeting with you on April 11 was, by no means, your first, or only, opportunity to engage.

To review, the constitutional amendments will:

1. Require state government to involve all Alaskans in decisions to levy or increase taxes to pay for state services.
2. Constitutionally protect the people's right to determine the future of the PFD.
3. Allow voters to curb the growth of future government spending, and implement a constitutional savings plan.

We must develop a long-term fiscal plan that includes an affordable budget and these three constitutional amendments if we are to place our state on the trajectory of economic growth and future success.

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We believe that opposition to allowing Alaskans to be involved in their long-term fiscal plan cannot be explained unless it is that you do not trust the people of Alaska, which, if true, is disappointing. I do trust Alaskans, and intend to continue to advocate that they be given every opportunity to vote on these constitutional amendments.

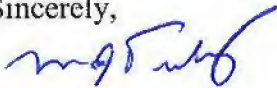
Your characterization that my administration is responsible for “divisive rhetoric”, is in and of itself divisive and wholly unfounded. We are attempting to have engaged and meaningful discussions with all Alaskans that set state government on a truly sustainable financial path. My staff and I have met with you, your staff, and Alaska Federation of Native (AFN) board members since I took office and introduced an affordable, sustainable, and balanced budget. Each meeting, we have attended with open minds to listen to solutions you may propose. Not only have your solutions been absent, but your April 16, 2019 letter suggests that we use the entire Permanent Fund account to pay for current government. I am not interested in an unconstitutional solution and neither are most Alaskans. If you take the pulse of your Alaska Native membership, I do not believe you will find alignment with that approach.

I have communicated that my administration is interested in finding solutions to the issues that plague Alaska, which includes rural Alaska. As a result, I am interested in your organization’s plan to address the following:

- How does AFN envision its role and participation in addressing the domestic violence and sexual assault amongst our Alaska Native population?
- What plans does AFN have to address the unacceptably low student achievements of our students in rural Alaska?
- What plans does AFN have to work with me to support natural resource development?
- What plans does AFN have to get our state back on the fiscal rails?

You have called my approach “misguided”- I think it only just to expect you to productively outline your approach.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Dunleavy
Governor